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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/874,680	06/05/2001	Laura R. Whitby	81513PCW	7981

7590 02/28/2005

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EXAMINER

TRAN, NHAN T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2615

DATE MAILED: 02/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/874,680

Applicant(s)

WHITBY ET AL.

Examiner

Nhan T. Tran

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2615

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 November 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-31 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Smith, II (US 5,768,163).

Regarding claim 1, Smith discloses a docking station assembly (Fig. 7) for receiving a digital camera (46), the docking station assembly comprising:

a housing (33) for forming a base portion for the docking station assembly and the housing including an insert-receiving portion (slot/rail in a groove shape configuration as shown in Figs. 7 & 12) for receiving any of a plurality of removable and replaceable inserts (any of a plurality of clip pad 32 of the same model or a plurality of pins 61 shown in Fig. 13);

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a removable and replaceable insert (32) having a docking mating portion on a first side which mates with the insert-receiving portion, and having a camera mating portion on a second side having a shape substantially of a portion of the digital camera and which camera mating portion can receive the digital camera (see Fig. 7; col. 4, lines 50-56).

Regarding claim 2, Smith also discloses a plurality of removable and replaceable inserts (a plurality of clip pads 32 of the same model or a plurality of pins 61 shown in Fig. 13).

Regarding claim 3, it is clear that the insert receiving portion of 33 is a notched out portion (Figs. 7 & 12).

Regarding claim 4, Smith discloses that clip pad 32 includes a display which inherently provides a light indicator for indication charging of the digital camera during operation. See col. 4, lines 47-49. It should be noted that charging of the digital camera is not necessarily to be understood as charging of the battery of the digital camera. In this case, charging of the digital camera equates to the digital camera being operated based on power supply from the laptop 10.

Regarding claim 5, it is also clear that the digital camera is a wireless camera since it has a battery (101 or 71 as shown in Figs. 14 & 17; col. 5, lines 5-21) for the digital camera to operate when detaching from the docking station. Alternatively, it can be configured to include IR transceiver for remote control (col. 6, lines 4-10).

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Regarding claim 6, Smith further discloses an electrical connection disposed on the housing for connection to the digital camera (Fig. 12; col. 5, lines 30-34).

Regarding claim 7, Smith also shows that a floor of the insert has a notched out portion (offset notch portion) through which the electrical connection passes at pins 61 & 62 (Fig. 13).

Regarding claim 8, it is clearly seen that one or more stabilizing elements (the slot/rail of 33 shown in Fig. 7 and/or a hook 55 shown in Fig. 11; col. 5, lines 24-25) for providing stable connection of the digital camera to the insert.

Regarding claims 9 & 10, a power cable (cable 52; Fig. 12) attached to the housing for transmitting digital signals and electrical power to the housing (col. 5, lines 35-60).

Regarding claims 11 & 12, see the Examiner's analyses in claims 1-3.

Regarding claims 13 & 14, the first side (i.e., left side) and the second side (i.e., right side) are on substantially opposite sides each other (Fig. 7).

Regarding claims 15-21, see the Examiner's analyses in claims 4-10, respectively.

Regarding claim 22, see the Examiner's analysis in claim 1, wherein a first removable and replaceable insert is represented by the clip pad 32 (Fig. 7).

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Regarding claim 23, it is seen that the clip pad 32 can be removed and substituted by other clip pad of the same type and model; similarly, the digital camera 46 can also be another digital camera of the same model. In view of the above, the claimed limitations of a second insert and a second camera are inherently met by simply replacing the clip pad and the camera with other clip pad and camera of the same model.

Regarding claims 24-31, see the Examiner's analyses in claims 3-10, respectively.

### ***Conclusion***

3. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

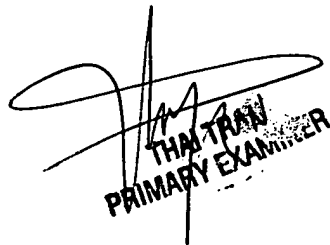
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nhan T. Tran whose telephone number is (703) 605-4246. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday, 8:00am - 6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's acting supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on (703) 305-4725. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

NT.



THAI TRAN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER